

Message Text

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APPROVED BY EUR/SES:MR. POLANSKY

EUR/EE:MR. HURWITZ

CU/EE:MS. BRANDT

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175969

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED US TOUR BY BULGARIAN ARMY CHOIR AND
DANCE CO. (BACDC)

REF: A) SOFIA 1049, NOVEMBER 4, 1970

B) STATE 182709, NOVEMBER 5, 1970

1. QUESTION OF US TOUR BY BACDC HAS ARISEN AGAIN. ACROAMA BOOKING AGENCY IN NEW YORK HAS REQUESTED DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL FOR SUMMER 1974 TOUR OF BACDC. GROUP WOULD INCLUDE SIXTY-FIVE MEMBER CHOIR, FORTY-FIVE MEMBER ORCHESTRA, TWENTY-FIVE MEMBER DANCE ENSEMBLE, AND STAFF OF FIVE. ACROAMA WOULD BOOK GROUP IN SUMMER FESTIVAL CENTERS FOR MAXIMUM OF NINE-WEEK TOUR. ACROAMA HAS BEEN INFORMED BY BACDC MANAGEMENT THAT MEMBERS ALLEGEDLY ARE NOT RPT NOT SOLDIERS BUT PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS HIRED BY BULGARIAN ARMY TO PERFORM FOR ARMY AS WELL AS ABROAD. BULGARIANS ASSERT GROUP WOULD APPEAR IN US IN CIVILIAN DRESS.

2. EMBASSY COMMENTS REQUESTED AS TO DESIRABILITY OF
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PROPOSED TOUR, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF DEVELOPING

US-BULGARIAN RELATIONS. RUSH

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